PATE.
1155-0780P

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Hidenari NAKAHAMA et al. Conf.:

2661

Appl. No.:

09/937,599

Group:

1713

Filed:

September 28, 2001 Examiner: L. Choi

For:

KNEADING STATUS EVALUATION METHODS FOR RUBBER COMPOSITION AND MANUFACTURING

METHODS FOR RUBBER COMPOSITION

## REPLY TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

November 21, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Restriction Requirement dated October 21, 2003, the following remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

## REMARKS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner has required election in the present application between:

Group I, claims 1-9, drawn to a kneading status evaluation method for rubber composition and a manufacturing method; and